

Tom Horne  
Superintendent

# N.E.W.S

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## ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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### **HORNE CHOSEN TO PRESENT REFORM AGENDA ON NCLB TO NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATORS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Thursday, August 10, 2006

PHOENIX (Thursday, August 10, 2006) -- Tom Horne, State Schools Superintendent, has been chosen by the National Conference of State Legislators to be one of three presenters on reform of No Child Left Behind (NCLB). The presentation will be in Nashville, TN, Tuesday, August 15. Horne has achieved national recognition as a critic of NCLB, in part, because he sued the federal government on its attempt to renege on an agreement regarding English language learners.

While a supporter of accountability, Horne will criticize NCLB as a dysfunctional architecture of accountability. He will contrast NCLB with Arizona Learns, as an example of a far more fair and accountable measurement of schools. Under NCLB, a school can achieve spectacularly on 135 out of 136 measures, fall short on one, and fail as a result. The Arizona system by contrast presents a comprehensive and fair review of the school's achievement.

Horne will also criticize irrational decisions, especially in the areas of special education and English language learners.

He will propose that NCLB be reformed to leave much more decision making to the states, especially where, in Arizona, their own accountability system functions better than NCLB.

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